

A State of Montana program to help pay monthly premiums for people with Medicare prescription drug coverage

1-866-369-1233

Big Sky

# Need Help Paying Medicare Part D Premiums?

#### What is Medicare Part D?

Medicare prescription drug coverage is insurance provided by private companies approved by Medicare which started January 1, 2006. This coverage is available to anyone with Medicare. Drug plans may vary in which prescription drugs are covered, how much you have to pay, and the pharmacies you can use. You will have to pay a monthly premium. Call **Medicare** at **1-800-Medicare** with questions about Medicare Part D.

## What is Big Sky Rx?

Big Sky Rx is a State of Montana program administered by the Department of Public Health and Human Services. Big Sky Rx helps pay monthly Medicare drug coverage premiums up to \$33.11 for qualified Montana residents. Anyone on Medicare can apply for Big Sky Rx. Fill out an application for Big Sky Rx even if you are not yet enrolled with a Medicare Part D Plan. Call **Big Sky Rx** at **1-866-369-1233** with questions.

## To **Qualify** for Big Sky Rx You Must:

- Be a Montana resident,
- Be on Medicare, and
- Have an annual family income less than about \$20,660 if you are single or about \$27,620 if you are married and living together (this income changes with the household size and changes annually).
   Assets are not counted as income



#### To **Enroll** in Big Sky Rx You Must:

- Be qualified
- Be enrolled in a Medicare Part D Plan, and
- Have applied for Social Security Extra Help if your annual family income is less than \$15,315 if you are single, or \$20,535 if you are married and living together (this income changes on an annual basis). Big Sky Rx will tell you if you need to fill out an application for Extra Help.

You should apply even if you think your income is too high. Some income is not counted in determining eligibility for Big Sky Rx.

## **Special Enrollment**

Big Sky Rx is a State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP). Medicare allows recipients who qualify for a SPAP to enroll in a Medicare Part D Plan at any time during the year. Therefore, even if you have NOT signed up for a Medicare Part D Plan, send in your Big Sky Rx application to see if you qualify. BSRx will send you a verification letter saying you qualify, but BSRx needs additional information. That letter is proof for your insurance carrier that you are allowed the special enrollment, or that you can enroll at any time during the year.

#### Please keep this cover for your information.

ADA - Persons with disabilities who need an alternative accessible format of this information, or who require some other reasonable accommodations in order to participate in Big Sky Rx, should contact us at the numbers listed.

## How Do I Apply for Big Sky Rx?

**Call Big Sky Rx for an application** or print one from our Big Sky Rx website. www.BSRx.mt.gov

In-State Toll Free 1-866-369-1233

Out-of-State and Helena Area 1-406-444-1233 TDD (Telephone Device for the Deaf) 1-406-444-2590

**Complete the Big Sky Rx application.** Call Big Sky Rx if you need help. Send the completed application to our Big Sky Rx address.

Big Sky Rx

PO Box 202915

Helena, MT 59620-2915

**Fax** 1-406-444-3846

**Email** bigskyrx@mt.gov

Website www.bigskyrx.mt.gov

You will receive a letter from Big Sky Rx within about 20 calendar days of sending your Big Sky Rx application to tell you if you are qualified, enrolled or ineligible.

#### **Medicare Part D Resources**

Area Agency on Aging /
State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

(Counselors will help with Medicare Rx enrollment) 1-800-551-3191

#### Medicare

1-800-Medicare or www.medicare.gov

Social Security Administration and Extra Help

1-800-772-1213 or www.socialsecurity.gov

